

# Chronology

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## Potato Cyst Nematode (PCN), *Globodera pallida* in the United States

March 2007

- On April 19, 2006, officials of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) announced the detection of potato cyst nematode (PCN), *Globodera pallida*, a major pest of potato crops. This was the first detection of the pest in the United States. The nematode cysts were detected during a routine survey of tare soil at an ISDA grader facility in eastern Idaho. In that survey, more than 3,500 samples were analyzed, and only one was positive. That survey, conducted as part of Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS), is designed to demonstrate that areas are free of exotic nematodes or, if they are present, to detect them as soon as possible after their introduction into domestic production systems.
- On June 13, 2006, soil samples collected from a 45-acre field in northern Bingham County tested positive for PCN based on morphological and DNA analyses.
- On July 12, 2006, a soil sample from a second 60-acre field within the same farming operation in northern Bingham County also tested positive for PCN.
- On August 29, 2006, APHIS and ISDA announced the establishment of a regulatory area near Shelley, Idaho. The regulated area contains about 10,000 acres. In this particular area, regulated articles may not be moved interstate except in accordance with Federal Domestic Quarantine Order.
- On September 27, 2006, soil samples from three additional fields within close proximity to the two initial positive fields were confirmed positive for PCN.
- On October 27, 2006, soil samples from two additional fields within close proximity to the five fields were also confirmed positive for PCN.
- To date, over 34,000 soil samples from 800 fields and facilities have been examined since the initial find of PCN in April 2006. Except for the seven positive fields within the regulated area, all other soil samples have been determined *not* to contain PCN.
- APHIS and cooperators are in the process of developing an eradication plan designed to eliminate PCN from the infested area in southeast Idaho.